

***REV. LAWRENCE LOVELL, C.M.F.***  
***(MISSIONARY SONS OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY, CLARETIANS)***

**DOCUMENTS PRODUCED BY THE ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES 2013  
PURSUANT TO JCCP 4286 SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

**Vicar for Clergy Database**

Clergy Assignment Record (Detailed)

**Mr. Larry Lovell**

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*Current Primary Assignment**Birth Date* 1/1/1901*Age:* 112*Birth Place**Deanery:* 0*Diaconate Ordination**Priesthood Ordination**Diocese Name**Date of Incardination**Religious Community* Claretian Missionaries*Ritual Ascription* Latin*Ministry Status* To Lay State*Canon State* Layperson*Incard Process* ☐*Begin Pension Date**Seminary**Ethnicity* English**Fingerprint Verification and Safeguard Training***Date Background Check**Virtus Training Date*

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**Assignment History**

<b><i>Assignment</i></b>	<b><i>Beginning Date</i></b>	<b><i>Completion Date</i></b>
Returned To Lay State	6/17/1992	
Left Archdiocese	7/1/1984	6/16/1992
San Gabriel Mission Catholic Church, San Gabriel Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	8/28/1979	6/30/1984

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Rev. Lawrence Lovell, C.M.F.  
*Received* 6/17/92

54021

CONFIDENTIAL**CLARETIAN  
MISSIONARIES**

PROVINCIAL OFFICE

December 16, 1985

**CONFIDENTIAL**

REDACTED

Archdiocese of Los Angeles  
1531 West Ninth St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Dear REDACTED

During a recent phone conversation with you I mentioned I would send you a copy of what has transpired concerning Rev. Lawrence Lovell, CMF, a Claretian priest who was assigned at San Gabriel Mission from 1979 to 1984. I also briefly spoke with REDACTED and he mentioned that it would be best that I keep you informed about what has been happening concerning Fr. Lovell. Enclosed is an overview of the events that have happened from the time I first became aware of Fr. Larry's problem to the present. Obviously, this report is to be kept confidential.

If there is any more information which you might need, or if you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to let me know.

REDACTED have a very blessed and love-filled Christmas. Know that my prayers are with you and your ministry during this Holy Season.

Sincerely,  
REDACTED

Provincial

CONFIDENTIAL

RE: Rev. Larry Lovell, C.M.F.

- Thursday, October 24 -- in the afternoon a member of San Gabriel Mission Parish came to speak to me about a serious problem involving Fr. Larry's relationship with one of her children.

- Thursday, October 24, in the evening I met with both parents and one of the children. Given the nature of the problem expressed during my afternoon and evening meetings with members of this family, I called Fr. Larry in Phoenix and asked him to come to the Provincial House for a meeting on October 24, 1985.

I suggested and encouraged counseling for the child (young man) and for the parents. I knew at this time, too, that given the seriousness of the problem, and given certain legal requirements, that the counselor involved would have to make a report to child protective services (CPS). Shortly after this October 25th meeting I was assured by the parents of this family that such a report had been filed and that the police department had been involved with regard to interviewing some of the family members. I knew that both the parents including the child were also suggesting some kind of counseling. I concurred with the serious need for them to talk to a professional counselor and mentioned that I would see to it that the expenses would be taken care of.

- October 25, 1985 - I met with Fr. Larry at length and discussed the problem with him. The parents of the family involved and one of the children also joined Fr. Larry and me for part of our meeting. Given the nature of the problem and given the information which I received from the family and given my discussions with Fr. Larry, the following actions were taken:

- 1)- I removed Fr. Larry from active ministry immediately -- he was to return to Phoenix to make arrangements for his moving out of the parish there.
- 2)- After such arrangements were made which we had agreed would take only a couple of days, Fr. Larry was to be placed in residence in one of our communities where he would not be actively involved in a ministerial assignment. This move was to be very temporary. Within a couple of weeks Fr. Larry was to enter into a residential program which is specifically designed to help him with his illness. Larry began this program on November 7, 1985.
- 3)- Within a short time after discovering the nature of Fr. Larry's illness and after more discussion with the family involved, and with the concern that Fr. Larry might have been involved with other children, REDACTED from "FOR KIDS SAKE, INC" was asked to meet with some of the high risk families. Two such meetings were held at San Gabriel Mission. On November 20th Mr. REDACTED also met with the Pastor of the parish where Fr. Larry has been assigned during the last two years and with a parent whose son would be considered a high risk. The Pastor was to meet with the parents of another family shortly thereafter, since those parents were unable to meet previously.
- 4)- I, together with a fellow Claretian priest, have spoken with REDACTED and other professionals on various occasions so that we could best respond to any families who might need help.

CONFIDENTIAL

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- 5)- One other family who learned of Fr. Larry's problem and who spoke with her children about this problem, since especially one of the children was considered to be a high risk, discovered that a few years back there was some inappropriate behavior on the part of Fr. Larry. I took the opportunity to speak with one of the parents and with the son who was involved. Once again, although this situation was not as serious as the former one discussed, I encouraged the young man to see a counselor. He himself had mentioned that although he did not feel that he was at the present time seriously affected by whatever took place a few years before, he would like to take the opportunity to speak to a professional.

Concerning Fr. Larry -- little by little he more and more has become aware of the gravity of his illness. I and a fellow Claretian have been in communications with him and have been pastorally supportive of him as he undergoes treatment. Fr. Larry has been advised that if he is able to return to ministry after his residential program of treatment, such ministry would be of a limited nature. The possibility of Fr. Larry's returning to ministry and the nature of such ministry would be decided upon after discussion and input from the various professionals involved. Many factors would have to be taken into consideration before any decision was made.

54046

LOVELL, Rev. Larry, C.M.F.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
8/28/79	San Gabriel Mission, San Gabriel	Associate
7/1/84	LEFT ARCHDIOCESE	

54043



ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES  
OFFICE OF VICAR FOR CLERGY  
(213) 251-3284

2/12/89

REDACTED

Spoke to Father [redacted] and  
gave him information on REDACTED  
REDACTED He will contact her  
as soon as he has a chance to  
talk to the Communications lawyer  
REDACTED

54042



REDACTED

*Return address =*

March 19, 1994

REDACTED

There will be an opportunity to discuss the following problem on Sunday April 10, at 2pm. at San Miguel Mission:

REDACTED

Archbishop of Los Angeles  
Chancery: 1531 W. 9th. St.,  
Los Angeles Ca., 90015

REDACTED

Lay-Catholics sexually victimized by religious, who were not acknowledged in their pain for many years felt forced to find a voice through the media in order to bring correction and justification to these serious problems. Because of such publicity the Franciscan fathers are finally forced to face the reality that "protecting or hiding" sexual offenders within their Franciscan community does not heal them, but only prolongs and increases problems for all. In the end neither offenders or victims of sexual abuse are helped. In fact it is in denial and secrecy that both are abandoned and isolated in their pain, and it is only in honest, realistic confrontation that can badly needed Christian healing can occur.

54037

An abusive person such as that, not only brings destruction to himself, to Christ's body, but undermines the trust so badly needed by people of church today. A trust in leadership and structure of church that has only it's people's best spiritual interest at heart so essential in the conditions of today's world. People badly need to be able to place their faith in a healthy church community where they can come together in safety and with their children be nurtured in God's love.

I realize the solutions to problems such as these are certainly not easy. But clearly our first responsibility is to serve the people of church and protect them to the best of our ability from sexual abuse and spiritual violation. Such violation cuts deep wounds into families that cannot not heal. In fact such wounds (introduced into families by religious) lead to cross-generational problems without end.

It is my firm belief that the hope for sexual offenders lies in their removal from all opportunity to abuse, acknowledging their sins before God without denial and recognizing the hurt they've caused. Never should such offenders be entrusted with the vocation of priesthood again. Only in coming to God's truth can offenders and victims alike be healed. Only in facing this painful issue with reality and honesty, by working together as lay people and clergy alike, by being transparent in facing our weaknesses, opening ourselves to grow in understanding of this problem, and in praying as one Christ can we gain strength against these undermining issues.

For laypeople it is easier to forgive brothers/sisters who sit beside us in churchpews for even serious offenses. For we easily acknowledge we all are sinners alike. But false teachers, and priests with seriously defiled hands that lift the Eucharist unto God, desecrate this sacrifice. It is destructive to the holy encounter the body of Christ needs as their spiritual nourishment. It is destructive to the grace and meaning the sacraments brings into our lives.

The reality that laypeople today are aware and will speak out on abuse, injustice and unethical decision making counter to a healthy church can no longer be denied. They rightfully should speak out and it is their right to be heard.

I empathize in your pain of "walking towards the light" with these issues, but I am indeed very grateful that this painful journey has begun. For finally now that this darkness is slowly brought into the light can healing begin. How difficult it is for us to face our fears truthfully, without stagnant perceptions that influence us and protect only our own needs.

As Secular Franciscan, just as St. Francis stood before the pope, I beg you to hear me a laywoman without fear. In writing you, my concerns come from personal experience of sexual abuse to REDACTED of my children by Fr. Larry Lovell, a Claretian the late 70's and early 80's at San Gabriel Mission Parish. The pain of this violation lives on in my family and will never be over.

REDACTED

REDACTED

Along with our Pastor Fr. Peter Krieg OFM, it is my responsibility as REDACTED to provide a holy and healthy environment for the families and children of our parish and to provide opportunity for growth in faith to the best of my ability. This aspiration I believed coincided with the values and principles of the Franciscans as well diocesan church leadership. I myself feel violated in my position as a minister to God's people, because pertinent information was kept from where possible sexual abuse could occur. I take my responsibility very seriously in decisions I make when choosing volunteers for various parish programs. My personal integrity has also been violated, since it would be assumed by most parishioners that as parish leader I was aware of this decision, while in fact I was powerless and had no voice.

My need to express these concerns come not from hatred nor condemnation, but dedication and love for my church as "body of Christ," which I feel is desecrated and defiled by those who abuse children while in a priesthood-vocation. Pedophiles and sex offenders are seriously ill. They do not possess the characteristics or qualities essential to preach a truthful Gospel. No matter how charismatic or how well they organize Parish programs, teams or councils. Clearly they lack the discipline needed for a vocation in priesthood, to such a degree that their actions become destructive to its very essence.

Just as through annulments marriages can be declared void, because specific conditions were initially missing towards the validity of such a marriage. So with priests who's sexual behavior deviates to the degree that they abuse others essential characteristics needed to live out the priesthood vocation were clearly lacking from the very beginning. Whether conscious or unconscious, his decision to enter priesthood was not made with the necessary conditions present to validate such a vocation and certainly sexual deviant characteristics were not noted.

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My children have been robbed from their spiritual connection to church. None of them are able to trust any longer in this institution for spiritual nourishment or direction. The struggles from this violation of spiritual trust surface time and again from within family events such as weddings (outside Church), births of grandchildren, divisions about the distribution of sacraments on them, and a mysterious illness REDACTED contracted since the abuse.

I believe God is with my children, cares for them in a specific way, precisely because of the hurt they encountered. And it is only through the grace of God that I am privileged to continue not only be connected to Christ's body but to minister as a teacher of the Gospel to His people for almost twenty years now. I believe also, that I am called to help bring insight and healing into the pain of sexual abusive priests and their victims in whatever way I can because of my personal experiences.

I place myself at your disposal for any help I could possibly be. For the sake of the Gospel I beg you to enter the woundedness of the sexual abused and abusers in openness, trust and honesty in every way and not only from your own perspective. For this woundedness has much to teach us. It can help us let go of overwhelming fear and despair, and bring us to badly needed prayer for these issues as one church. In these days of death and resurrection, once again Christ's is suffering crucifixion, we all so long for resurrection.

Sincerely, REDACTED

cc: REDACTED

54040

Dear San Miguel Mission Religious Education Teachers and  
Pastoral Council Members

REDACTED

REDACTED

Director Catechetical Ministries  
Diocese of Monterey  
530 Romona Ave  
Monterey Ca., 93940

REDACTED

Post Box 69  
San Miguel Ca., 93451

REDACTED

Post Box 69  
San Miguel Ca., 93451

REDACTED

1500 34th. Ave.  
Oakland Ca., 94601-3091

REDACTED

Diocese of Monterey  
P.O. Box 2048  
Monterey ca., 93942

REDACTED

Chancery: 1531 W. 9th. St.,  
Los Angeles Ca., 90015

54041

REDACTED

August 10, 1994

REDACTED

1531 W. 9th Street  
Los Angeles C.A. 90015

Father REDACTED

In September of 1986, I learned REDACTED of my REDACTED children had been molested by our parish priest and youth minister at San Gabriel Mission Parish, San Gabriel CA., for a period of approximately 5 years, during their early adolescence.

From this discovery a long and painful struggle began, that seems to be never-ending, and continues on with every life event encountered within our family.

The priest involved was Fr. Larry Lovell C.M.F.. He was charged by the City of San Gabriel, since more families were involved, but none of the parents of these children wanted to press charges, because of our "Christian loyalty."

The priest pleaded guilty in the Pasadena Courts, and was given a mere three years probation. He was placed in the New Mexico treatment center of the Paracletes for five months. From there the Claretians assigned him to "office duties" in their Chicago Administrative Building, while at the same time paying for his further education as a psychologist at the Loyola University in Chicago IL.

Soon after his graduation, he was released from the Claretian Order as well as the priesthood. I believe, the Claretians did no longer wish to be financially liable, in case of any re-occurrence of child molestation by this perpetrator. However, with his acquired "degree in psychology" Larry Lovell has been able to obtain a position in hospital-work with people, in "ministry" to the dying and their families. We don't know who is watching him!

Our family, has more or less dealt with this trauma on its own, and the presence of "Jesus" seems more present to perpetrators than its victims. Presently, our family is struggling to hang-on to it's sanity. Our oldest son is in immediate need of counseling and financial assistance for this.

As a family we seem to have encountered the pain, with every marriage of our four children, the birth of their children, and the grand-childrens' first Communions.

54031

At one such an occasion with our grandson's first communion his father, shook while sitting in the church, trying to support his son at this event.

It is very clear to me at this point, my children are not okay, and what happened to them can't ever be undone.

None of them any longer attend any Church, but all of them are judged over and over by a Church that deeply hurt them, for not entering into "Sacramental" marriages or for being unforgiving. Still, all my children brought the grandchildren to Baptism.

We raised our children with strong Catholic faith, and it is a part of their total development. In the inability to embrace the faith of their childhood, because of pain and inability to trust those who are connected with it, the daily painful struggle continues. Their belief system has been destroyed and they live with a spiritual void in their lives. This is evident again and again.

I need your help. I want my children, my family to be okay. I realize, at some point all children will need counseling, I need your advice in what to do, and how get my children and grandchildren well, since what happened to my children seems to continues to perpetuate our lives.

Please respond and let me know what you feel we can do.

Sincerely,

REDACTED

Keep on file:

REDACTED



She'll be writing in me  
for Larry Lovell, C.M.F.

54033



NAME: Mr. Lawrence Lovell c.m.f. DATE INITIATED: \_\_\_\_\_  
( )

PERSON MAKING ALLEGATION: REDACTED REDACTED Work Home  
( ) Home

REPORT/ALLEGATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ARCHDIOCESAN ATTORNEY/INSURANCE NOTIFIED: (date) \_\_\_\_\_

THERAPISTS/DOCTORS: \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
(priest) \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

THERAPISTS/DOCTORS: \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
(for others) \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

ADDITIONAL CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
PERSONS: \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

ADVOCATES/ATTORNEY: \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
\_\_\_\_\_ ( )

CASE CHRONOLOGY:

DATE	
<u>8-10-94</u>	<u>Letter from</u> REDACTED
<u>9-3-94</u>	REDACTED
<u>10-29-94</u>	<u>Call from</u> REDACTED / <u>checking files</u> - REDACTED
	REDACTED
<u>10-29-94</u>	REDACTED
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

CONFIDENTIAL

November 8, 1994

NOTES: REDACTED

RE: LARRY LOVELL (C-File)

REDACTED has called--asking for help. She then wrote and I have spoken with her again (by phone) two weeks ago.

11/07/94: REDACTED

11/08/94: Spoke to Provincial, Rev. REDACTED CMF. He said the Claretians had offered more help to this family than [to] practically any other in such cases. Said that one of the sons refused counseling years ago--but now, in the midst of a divorce--has contacted the Claretians asking for therapy. The Claretians (within the last two months) have received a letter from this man's therapist and have written back to ask for an evaluation of how much of the therapy being requested is actually traceable back to the Larry Lovell experience. No answer yet received. I told Father REDACTED I would call REDACTED back with this information and tell her if she had further requests re counseling for herself or other questions, she could contact Father REDACTED directly.

REDACTED

54027

REDACTED

- Fr. Larry Lovell, C.F.M.  
San Gabriel Mission in prison

- Boy 16 now  
After boy 4 to 7<sup>th</sup> Grade } 5 or 6 yrs ago

- REDACTED

- mother  
- child  
- REDACTED  
Presently in prison  
Charter Oak Hosp - Covina  
Prison used -

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

Business  
FF  
REDACTED

Call - direct message



RICHARD HARTOG Los Angeles Times

erations Raymond Jack helps demonstrate decontamination exposed to a chemical or biological attack.

Jack's clothes were placed in a trash bag, and he was given a plastic wristband with an identification tag.

A firefighter wearing a hooded plastic suit, rubber boots and gloves and an oxygen tank greeted Jack at the tent's entrance and hosed him down with a retractable nozzle. Jack proceeded along the right side of the red, green and white tent set aside for men. The left side was designated for women and those who could not walk on their own.

Next, Jack stepped into a hazy red light in the middle of the tent, where two similarly attired firefighters hosed him down again and used a broom to scrub his skin. Contaminated water ran under the showers where Jack stood and was siphoned out of the tent

into a 600-gallon bladder. When Jack emerged from the tent he was given a baby blue paper suit and yellow booties.

"I didn't know if I should bring shampoo and my rubber ducky," Jack said after he changed back into his track suit. "It's no different than being in a big locker room shower."

The firefighters who operate the units work with the city's three hazardous-materials teams, relying on a variety of sensors and monitors to detect minute concentrations of nuclear, biological or chemical contaminants.

The units can also be used outside the airport, and were sent to Sunday's Academy Awards ceremony and to the 2000 Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles.

who warned that Newhall ranch could foul the waters of Southern California's last pristine river, supervisors directed their planning staff to draw up final environmental documents that they could formally approve in May.

It is the second time Los Angeles supervisors have backed the Newhall project, consisting of 21,600 homes on 12,000 acres straddling the Santa Clara River in the northwest corner of the county.

After the initial approval in 1999, Ventura County and environmental groups sued to block the development. A Kern County judge ruled that the environmental documents needed to be rewritten to address whether there is enough water available, among other matters.

The rewritten documents were on the table Tuesday, with Newhall contending it had found additional water supplies for the 70,000 people expected to live in the development.

Despite giving initial approval to the project, supervisors registered concern about Newhall's alleged failure to disclose the full number of San Fernando Valley spineflowers on its land. The district attorney's office recently settled a probe into the matter by requiring Newhall to set aside a 64-acre spineflower preserve.

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky said the incident has made him reconsider his initial support for Newhall. "I'm always troubled when a developer doesn't level with us," said Yaroslavsky, adding that he was reconsidering a previous vote in support of Newhall.

Yaroslavsky asked that Newhall allow supervisors and county staff to inspect all of the documents prepared by its consultants, who had searched the site for endangered species. The developer, which contends it has been forthright about the spineflower, quickly agreed.

Then Yaroslavsky, who had also proposed that 1,100 new acres of Newhall land in Ventura County be preserved as part of the deal, abstained from the 4-0 vote that directed county staff to prepare the project's approval. Supervisor Mike Antonovich, in whose district the Newhall project is located, had already formally scaled back the project by 730 homes to make room for the initial 64-acre spineflower preserve.

In hours of testimony, supporters of the project argued it would create critically needed housing and jobs while opponents labeled it poorly planned sprawl that would sap water supplies.

"The L.A. metro area's population is expected to grow by the

paperwork, opponents have vowed to sue again to block Newhall from submitting street plans that would trigger construction.

## 3 Accused of Molesting Altar Boys

By REDACTED  
Times Staff Writer

Child molestation charges were filed Tuesday against two former priests and a seminarian, and arrest warrants were issued for all three, the Los Angeles County district attorney's office said.

The charges against Lawrence Joseph Lovell, 55, and REDACTED, raise to eight the number of former priests charged in molestation cases by the district attorney's office.

Lovell, a former youth pastor in charge of altar boys at San Gabriel Mission, is accused of lewd acts involving four boys under the age of 14 between 1980 and 1984. Removed from the ministry in 1988 after his conviction that year in another child molestation case, he has been working at a mental health center in New Mexico.

REDACTED

Prosecutors said that, if convicted, Lovell faces up to 15 years in state prison, REDACTED REDACTED

### How to Reach Us

Subscription Services:  
(800) 252-9141  
Valley City Desk  
Ph. (916) 722-3200

REDACTED

From: REDACTED  
 Sent: Friday, March 28, 2003 3:05 PM  
 To: REDACTED  
 Subject: Statement

L. LOVELL

REDACTED

Dear

Thanks very much for your help with this statement about Larry Lovell, who had been assigned here at San Gabriel Mission in the 80's. The statement follows. I'll send the Spanish version as soon as I have the translation. I plan to read the statement at all the Masses this week-end. Thanks very much,  
 REDACTED

Your brother in the Lord,

REDACTED

I would like to speak with you today about a matter that was reported in the newspapers earlier this week and which concerns San Gabriel Mission. Last year the Legislature of the State of California passed a resolution to suspend the Statute of Limitations in certain civil cases. This resolution means that allegations of sexual abuse that were reported to have happened many years ago can now, during this year 2003, be brought to trial. In the 1980s, allegations were made against a priest for incidents which were alleged to have happened while he was assigned to San Gabriel Mission. The allegations were made sometime after the priest had received an assignment to another state. As soon as the allegations were made, the Claretian Missionaries removed the priest from all ministry, and he never returned to ministry again. Rather, he was sent for professional evaluation and treatment. He then stood trial here in the Los Angeles area. From the time that the Claretian Missionaries first learned of the formal allegations, the priest was never allowed to minister again. In the early 1990's he was released from his vows as a priest and as a Claretian Missionary, and shortly after that he married. This past week the newspapers reported that the former priest is now being held on charges of sexual abuse which allegedly occurred during the period of time that he was assigned to San Gabriel Mission in the 1980s.

Once again I express the sadness and pain of the Claretian Missionaries and of the entire Church for all sexual abuse. I express the Church's support and prayers for the victims of abuse. We work and pray for an end to all sexual abuse, and a healing of all the wounds caused by this terrible sin and crime.

REDACTED

REDACTED

252791

# Priest on probation for molesting teen

By REDACTED

Staff Writer

A former San Gabriel Mission priest has been sentenced in Pasadena Superior Court to three years probation for repeatedly sexually molesting a 14-year-old boy.

The Rev. Lawrence Joseph Lovell, 38, who pleaded no contest last month to one count of child molestation, attributed his behavior to job stress, sexual immaturity and frustration, according to court documents.

At the time, it seemed to be an inevitable stress stemming from school and ministry, parents and supervisors and individual frustration in attaining particular goals, Lovell wrote in a two-page letter to Judge Gilbert Alston.

My own sense of loneliness, separation from fellow priests because of workload, constant expectations as a minister, sexual naivete and ignorance of the crime... all contributed to this sexual crime, Lovell wrote.

Lovell, who has been a priest for 10 years and served as youth minister at the San Gabriel Mission, was sentenced Wednesday. His purpose of sentencing, the no-contest plea is the same as a guilty plea.

As a condition of probation, Lovell is to attend weekly psychological counseling. By way of restitution, his victims will receive counseling funded by the Catholic Church.

The victim was molested by Lovell about 20 times over two years in various locations, including the rectory at the San Gabriel Mission, according to a report to the court from David Smith, deputy probation officer.

The first act of molestation occurred in 1978 on the youth's 14th birthday, according to court records. Lovell admitted

*I continued inappropriate sexual behavior until the activity became a mutual interaction, never forced or threatened.*

— Rev. Lawrence J. Lovell

molesting several other victims between 1978 and 1985, court records show.

However, the district attorney's office charged Lovell with only one count of child molestation because victims were reluctant to testify, according to Deputy District Attorney Drew Pitt.

When one of the victims told church officials of the acts, Lovell was immediately placed in an intensive therapy program in New Mexico, records state.

Lovell will not return to the Los Angeles area, and will assume administrative duties at the church's Provincial House in Chicago, where he must be registered as a sex offender, according to the records.

Lovell described his "very selfish choice" when he first sexually touched the youngster.

He was extremely upset and I was careful not to repeat this activity, Lovell wrote. However, being sexually immature, I continued inappropriate sexual behavior until the activity became a mutual interaction, never forced or threatened.

Lovell also stated that he had been sexually molested when he was 10 and 14, raped at 19, and approached by men for sex several times.

*Personal*

# 4 Priests Who Avoided Old Charges Facing Prosecution Anew

By  
Times Staff Writer

Four of 10 priests who escaped sexual abuse charges in Los Angeles County last summer after a U.S. Supreme Court decision are facing new charges of sexual abuse.

One former priest faces life in prison in Texas if convicted, two more are awaiting sentencing, and the fourth is awaiting trial on new charges.

"One by one, these guys are getting down," said Los Angeles County Deputy Dist. Atty. William Hodgman. "If they struck you, they tend to strike again."

The U.S. Supreme Court struck down the 1994 California law allowing the retroactive prosecution of decades-old child sex crimes. But the state attorney general's office has concluded that crimes that occurred after Jan. 1, 1988, are still prosecutable.

REDACTED

■ Lawrence Lovell, who has been removed from the priesthood, is awaiting sentencing in Prescott, Ariz., for molesting a 13-year-old boy there in the late 1970s. Charges that Lovell abused four altar boys at the San Gabriel Mission from 1980 to 1984 were dropped last year after the high court decision.

REDACTED

the L.A. County prosecutor said his office is continuing to pursue charges against the 10 priests. "We haven't finished yet in Los Angeles," he said. "I can say, we expect to charge some of these guys again. It's far from over."

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

Lovell was convicted of molesting a boy in the San Gabriel Mission in 1986 and subsequently left the ministry.

New charges that Lovell abused four additional altar boys at the San Gabriel Mission from 1980 to 1984 were dropped last year after the Supreme Court decision.

He pleaded guilty recently to molesting a boy in Prescott, Ariz., in 1985 and is awaiting sentencing.

A Maricopa County grand jury indicted him last month for founding an altar boy at Sacred Heart parish in Phoenix from July 1984 to May 1985, said a spokesman for the Maricopa County district attorney.

Lovell faces a prison term of five to 15 years at sentencing, according to the plea.

LA TIMES FEBRUARY 20, 2004